

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the Application:

Listing of the Claims

- 5 1. (Currently amended): A process for selectively oxygenating a distillate feedstock which process comprises contacting said feedstock with an oxygen-containing gas in an oxidation zone at oxidation conditions in the presence of solid oxidation catalyst comprising a Group VII metal component in an
10 amount ranging from 0.1 to 50 percent by weight based on the total weight of the catalyst and a basic support comprising a member of the group consisting of calcium oxide and magnesium oxide, and recovering an effluent stream distillate having an oxygen content incorporated therein in a range of 0.02 to 20 percent by weight and
15 a TAN number of less than 2 mg KOH/g.
2. (Original): The process of claim 1 wherein the Group VIII metal is cobalt.
3. (Original): The process of claim 1 wherein the basic support comprises magnesium oxide.
- 20 4. (Original): The process of claim 1 wherein the basic support comprises calcium oxide.
5. (Previously presented): The process of claim 1 wherein the Group VIII metal is present in the oxidation catalyst in an amount ranging from 0.1 to 50 percent by weight based on the total
25 weight of the catalyst.
6. (Previously presented): The process of claim 5 where the basic support comprises magnesium oxide.

7. (Previously presented): The process of claim 5 wherein the basic support comprises calcium oxide.

8. (Original): The process of claim 5 wherein the Group VIII metal is cobalt and the basic support comprises magnesium oxide.

Claim 9 (Canceled)

10. (Previously presented): The process of claim 1 wherein the Group VIII metal is present in the oxidation catalyst in an amount ranging from 2 to 20 percent by weight based on the total weight of the catalyst.

11. (Previously presented): The process of claim 1 wherein the Group VIII metal is present in the oxidation catalyst in an amount ranging from 4 to 12 percent by weight based on the total weight of the catalyst.

15 Claims 12 to 33 (Canceled)

20 34. (Canceled): ~~A process for selectively oxygenating a distillate feedstock which process comprises contacting said feedstock with an oxygen-containing gas in an oxidation zone at oxidation conditions in the presence of an oxidation catalyst comprising cobalt and a basic support in an amount ranging from 4 to 12 percent by weight based on the total weight of the catalyst and magnesium oxide and recovering an effluent stream distillate having an oxygen content of about 1.8 to about 10 percent by weight and a TAN number less than about 1 mg KOH/g.~~

25 35. (New): A process for selectively oxygenating a distillate feedstock which process comprises; contacting said feedstock with an oxygen-containing gas in an oxidation zone at oxidation conditions in the presence of an oxidation catalyst comprising cobalt in an amount ranging from 4 to 12 percent by weight based

on the total weight of the catalyst and magnesium oxide, and recovering an effluent stream distillate having an oxygen content of about 1.8 to about 10 percent by weight and a TAN number less than about 1 mg KOH/g.

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REMARKS

This Amendment is respectfully submitted to place rejected claims of subject Application in condition for allowance. Claim 34 has been canceled without prejudice. Claim 1 has been amended
10 and new Claim 35 has been added to more clearly point out the patentable subject matter of Applicants novel invention.

In particular, Claim 1 has been amended to recite the critical steps of Applicants' novel process, which are:

15 Contacting said feedstock with an oxygen-containing gas in an oxidation zone at oxidation conditions in the presence of solid oxidation catalyst comprising a Group VII metal component in an amount ranging from 0.1 to 50 percent by weight based on the total weight of the catalyst and a basic support comprising a member of the group
20 consisting of calcium oxide and magnesium oxide, and

Recovering an effluent stream distillate having an oxygen content incorporated therein in a range of 0.02 to 20 percent by weight and a TAN number of less than 2 mg KOH/g.

Support for amended Claim 1 is found in the Specification, for
25 example at page 7, lines 3 to 13, lines, and line 26 to page 8, line 3.

Claim 35 has been amended to recite the critical steps of Applicants' novel process, which are:

30 Contacting said feedstock with an oxygen-containing gas in an oxidation zone at oxidation conditions in the presence of an oxidation catalyst comprising cobalt in an amount ranging